Appl. No. 09/925,157
Amdt. dated January 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 25, 2004

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-25 are pending. Claims 1, 8, 14, 18 and 19 have been amended. The amended claims are fully supported by the specification. No new matter has been added.

Section 103(a) Rejections

In the office action, claims 1-25 were rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grantham et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,215,495) (hereinafter referred to as "Grantham") in view of Using Oracle Jdeveloper and Business Components for Java with Oracle interMedia (hereinafter referred to as "Oracle"). Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Independent claim 1 recites, among other elements, "*transmitting a rendering request from the user site to a rendering service, the user site being in communication with the rendering service over a network, the rendering request comprising identifiers of rendering resources currently available at the user site required for performing a rendering task.*" The Examiner asserts in the Office Action that Grantham (citing to column 3, lines 19-20, column 4, lines 66-67) teaches this element.

In Grantham, a user can send a request to a web server and render a 3D scene on the user's computer screen according to a downloaded VRML file from the web server. Even if this request comprises the identifier of the VRML file, it does not comprise identifiers of rendering resources currently available at the user site because the VRML file is stored in the memory of a web server, not the user site. Thus, Grantham fails to disclose or suggest the claimed rendering request comprising identifiers of rendering resources currently available at the user site required for performing a rendering task.

In addition, claim 1 recites, among other elements, "*comparing the rendering resources in the resource pool at the rendering service with the identifiers of rendering resources currently available at the user site.*" The Examiner asserts in the Office Action that Grantham's traversal of persistent objects (citing to column 4, lines 50-55 and 29-37) teaches this element. The Applicant respectfully traverses.

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In Grantham, persistent objects are stored in the local memory of a user's computer, and represent the basic building blocks of a scene graph. A traversal is applied to the root of the scene graph to define some state, for example a transformation, which affects how persistent objects are rendered. Thus, a traversal of persistent objects affects how persistent objects are rendered, but is not a comparison of the rendering resources in the resource pool with that currently available at the user site as claimed. Furthermore, comparing the rendering resources in the present invention is done between the rendering service and the user site, whereas the traversal in Grantham is only applied to persistent objects stored in the local memory of a user's computer. Thus, Grantham fails to disclose or suggest the claimed comparing the rendering resources in the resource pool at the rendering service with the identifiers of rendering resources currently available at the user site.

For at least the reasons stated above, the cited references do not show or suggest the features of claim 1. Hence, claim 1 is allowable over Grantham and Oracle.

Independent claims 8, 14, 18 and 19 include similar limitations to claim 1, and the Applicant therefore respectfully submits that claims 8, 14, 18 and 19 should be allowable for at least similar reasons.

Dependent claims 2-7 (dependent from claim 1), 9-13 (dependent from claim 8), 15-17 (dependent from claim 14) and 20-25 (dependent from claim 19), should be allowable for at least similar reasons as the independent claims they depend from.

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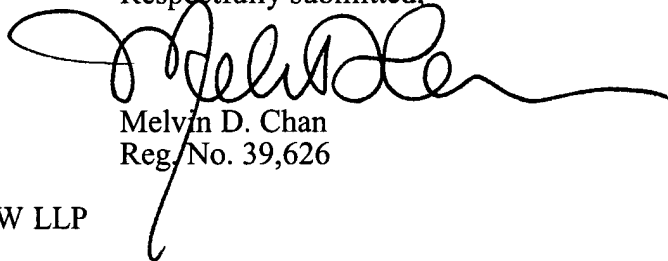Amdt. dated January 25, 2005
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin D. Chan
Reg. No. 39,626

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 650-326-2422
MDC:km
60395061 v1